Strategic National Security Challenges Facing the United States

Presentation to:
PENTAGON FORCE PROTECTION AGENCY
Distinguished Speaker Series

9 December 2010

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Biography of General Barry R. McCaffrey, USA (Ret.)

Barry McCaffrey served in the United States Army for 32 years and retired as a four-star General. At retirement, he was the most highly decorated serving General, having been awarded three Purple Heart medals (wounded in combat three times), two Distinguished Service Crosses (the nation's second highest award for valor) and two Silver Stars for valor.

For five years after leaving the military, General McCaffrey served as the Director of the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP). Upon leaving government service in 2001, he served as the Bradley Distinguished Professor of International Security Studies for five years at the United States Military Academy at West Point, NY. He continues as an Adjunct Professor of International Affairs.

General McCaffrey has been elected to the Board of Directors of: HNTB Corporation, CRC Health Corporation, and the Atlantic Council of the United States. He is also: a member of the Council on Foreign Relations; an Associate of the Inter-American Dialogue; Chairman of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Education Center Advisory Board; and is a member of the Board of Advisors of the National Infantry Foundation

Currently, General McCaffrey is President of his own consulting firm based in Arlington, Virginia www.mccaffreyassociates.com. He also serves as a national security and terrorism analyst for NBC News.

General McCaffrey graduated from Phillips Academy, Andover, Mass.; and from West Point with a BS. He earned a master's degree in American Government from American University and attended the Harvard University National Security Program as well as the Business School Executive Education Program. In 2007 he was inducted into the US Army Ranger Hall of Fame at the US Army Infantry Center, Ft. Benning, GA. In May 2010, he was honored as a Distinguished Graduate by the West Point Association of Graduates at the United States Military Academy.

General McCaffrey is married to Jill Ann McCaffrey. They have three adult children and six grandchildren. Their son, Colonel Sean McCaffrey, is currently serving as an Army Infantry Brigade Commander at Ft. Benning, GA.

The Eight Principle Challenges to Global Security

- The proliferation of nuclear, biological, and chemical weapons.
- Regional war among nation states.
- Civil war and failed states. (47,027 total US killed and wounded in Iraq and Afghanistan).
- International terrorism.
- The global recession and poverty.
- International crime and drug cartels.
- Humanitarian crisis/refugees.

Global Tools to Shape the International Environment

- Diplomacy is under-resourced and poorly organized.
- International Development Assistance lacks money and leadership.
- Arms Control is more effective than air attacks.
- International Law Enforcement Cooperation is a major success.
- Nonproliferation Initiatives lack a modern framework and international leadership.
- Shaping World Opinion is a function of sound policy and collective diplomacy -- not slick public relations.
- International Covert Action and Collection Potential has improved enormously with new resources and courageous dedication by the global cooperative intelligence community.
- UN/NATO/US Military Intervention must be the tool of last resort. When employed it must be violent, focused on clear objectives, and fully integrated with other elements of national power.

Protecting US Critical Infrastructure

- Protecting America's critical infrastructure and key assets is a formidable challenge. Our open and technologically complex society presents a huge array of targets.

- The macro numbers are enormous: 87,000 communities; 1,800 federal reservoirs; 2,800 power plants and 104 commercial nuclear power plants; 5,000 airports; 120,000 miles of railroads; 590,000 bridges; 2 million miles of pipeline; 80,000 dams.

- 85% of our critical infrastructure is privately held. Critical Infrastructure Protection (CIP) must be a public-private enterprise. Owner-operators must protect their resources.

- It is impossible to defend everything against every conceivable threat. We must move beyond gates, guards, and guns. We need to design security features into new infrastructure. We need new technology to protect potentially high-casualty targets.

- Federal Government support is vital in the transportation sector. Transportation choke points are a particular concern. We must develop a coordinated mechanism for assessing vulnerabilities and evaluating risk

The US Economy in Turmoil - 2010

- The US economy will recover significantly in the coming 24 months despite the ongoing recession caused by:
  - The credit market meltdown. (US spending 106% of what we produce past 20 years)
  - The collapse of the housing bubble.
  - Trade export-import balance deficits.
  - Tax revenue vs. expenditure shortfalls.
    ($66 trillion unfunded liability plus $2 trillion stimulus)
  - A grossly weakened US currency. (Federal Gov. debt $4.6 trillion 1994 to $15.1 trillion 2011)
  - Oil price fluctuations.
  - Incompetence in US economic regulatory mechanisms.
  - Corruption in senior financial community leadership.
  - Massive loss of jobs (9% unemployment – October 2010) particularly in the industrial base.

The Powerful US Global Economy

- 2008 global GDP was $60 trillion +
  - US contributed 25% ($14 trillion)
  - China only contributed ($4 trillion+)

- US Defense spending 4.7% of GDP. (Includes war direct expenditures).
  - Operations in Iraq & Afghanistan have cost the U.S. $1.1 trillion, with $999 billion going to DoD, as of 1 September 2010.
  - Military expenses average $10.6 billion per month.

- US attracted $2 trillion + in foreign direct investment in 2007.
  (UK – Hong Kong – France next top three each @ $1 trillion)

- US has manufacturing lead in pharmaceuticals and aerospace.
  - 25% of the world's total output.

- Giant US GDP:
  - Brazil GDP = Florida + Illinois GDP
  - Russia GDP = Texas GDP
  - India GDP = ½ of California GDP

- Leading global exporters -- US, China, and Germany all export over $1 trillion each.

Afghanistan in Peril - 2010

- Afghanistan (28 million people, GDP $23.35 billion) has become a nation with a struggling democratic government; a developing economy; a rapidly growing, disciplined Army; a mostly free press; and active diplomatic and economic ties with its neighbors and the world.

- The level of fighting against the Taliban has intensified rapidly. NATO combat forces will increase to 135,000 troops in Afghanistan. NATO now has lead for the entire effort (42 nations).

- Respect the Enemy – 10,609 US killed and wounded. 8,159 total IED attacks in 2009.

- Afghanistan is a Narco-state which produces more than 6,900 tons of opium per year (93% of the global heroin trade). $3.4 Billion in criminal money. 900,000 drug users. Two million people are employed in the opium trade. Taliban and warlords collect $200-$400 million a year from opium production.

- The Afghan National Army currently has 138,164, with a goal to increase to 171,600 by October 2011. Afghan National Police is 120,504 strong, but needs to grow to 134,000 by October 2011. By next fall, looking at total force (Army, Air Force, Police) of 305,600.

Afghanistan in Peril - 2010

- The rapid creation of the Afghan National Army is an enormous success story. These soldiers are the most disciplined, and effective military force in Afghanistan's history. In general, these troops are very courageous and aggressive in field operations. The Afghan Army is badly under-resourced. The Afghan Police are a disaster.
- The US will triple non-military aid to Pakistan to $1.5 billion a year for five years. (Since 2002 total $12.3 billion total aid). The Pakistan Armed Forces are now taking aggressive military offensive action against Taliban in the Frontier Tribal Areas (FATA).
- NATO Forces now, after eight years of war, have a sensible, coherent command structure.
- Afghanistan – 2nd most corrupt nation on earth, and the 5th most impoverished.
- This war is about 40,000 villages.
- The appointment of General Dave Petraeus as ISAF Commander in Afghanistan will positively change the course of the war.

Iraq – A Growing Success

- General Lloyd Austin, top Commander in Iraq now commands 50,000 troops with a train and assist mission.

- US has expended more than $900 billion in war-related funding through September 2010.
  - Operations in and around Iraq have cost $652 billion of these expenses.

- The morale, fighting effectiveness, and counter-insurgency skills of U.S. combat forces continue to be simply awe-inspiring. (4,421 killed; 31,936 wounded).

- Secretary Gates and Secretary Clinton are beginning to repair foreign and national security policy in the Middle East. Tensions with Syria and Turkey are somewhat reduced. Iran is on the edge, and going nuclear.

- The Iraqi Army is real, growing, and much more willing to fight. However, they are still not adequately equipped. The Iraqi Police are now the focus of enormous new efforts in training, leadership development, and equipment. (670,000 military and police).

- Iraq cannot sustain economic recovery (28.2 million people, GDP $113 billion) without enhanced, long-term international budgetary support.

- The outcome in Iraq is in political peril from the ongoing failure to form a consensus government.

The Threatening Situation in Mexico

- Mexico's courageous and honest senior leadership – President Felipe Calderon, the Mexican Army and Navy, and SSP Secretary of Federal Police leader Genaro Luna are successfully confronting criminal drug cartels. (Increased security budget from $2 billion in 2006 to $9.3 billion in 2009.)

- The Mexican State is engaged in an increasingly violent, internal struggle against heavily armed narco-criminal cartels. (28,500 murdered). Drug trade generates approximately 5% of Mexican GDP.

- The United States has provided only modest support to the Government of Mexico to date. ($300 million in 2009).

- President Calderon has boldly used the tool of extradition to the US. Bi-national cooperation is extremely good.

  (300+ major drug criminals sent north.)

- Mexico has formed a strategy to break up the seven major drug cartels and strip away their firepower and huge financial resources.
  - Calderon has deployed 45,000 soldiers to 8 Mexican states with the highest levels of drug-related violence.

- President Obama has endorsed the promising US-Mexican Merida Initiative. ($1.3 billion promised over three years).
  - This vital program is under-funded and slow to be implemented.

- Much is at stake for future US economic and national security policy.
  - The drug menace and drug addiction is central to the US criminal and social malignancy that has put more than 2 million Americans behind bars, clogged our courts, and placed enormous burdens on our health system. Drug legalization would intensify the addiction problem and incentivize the drug cartels.

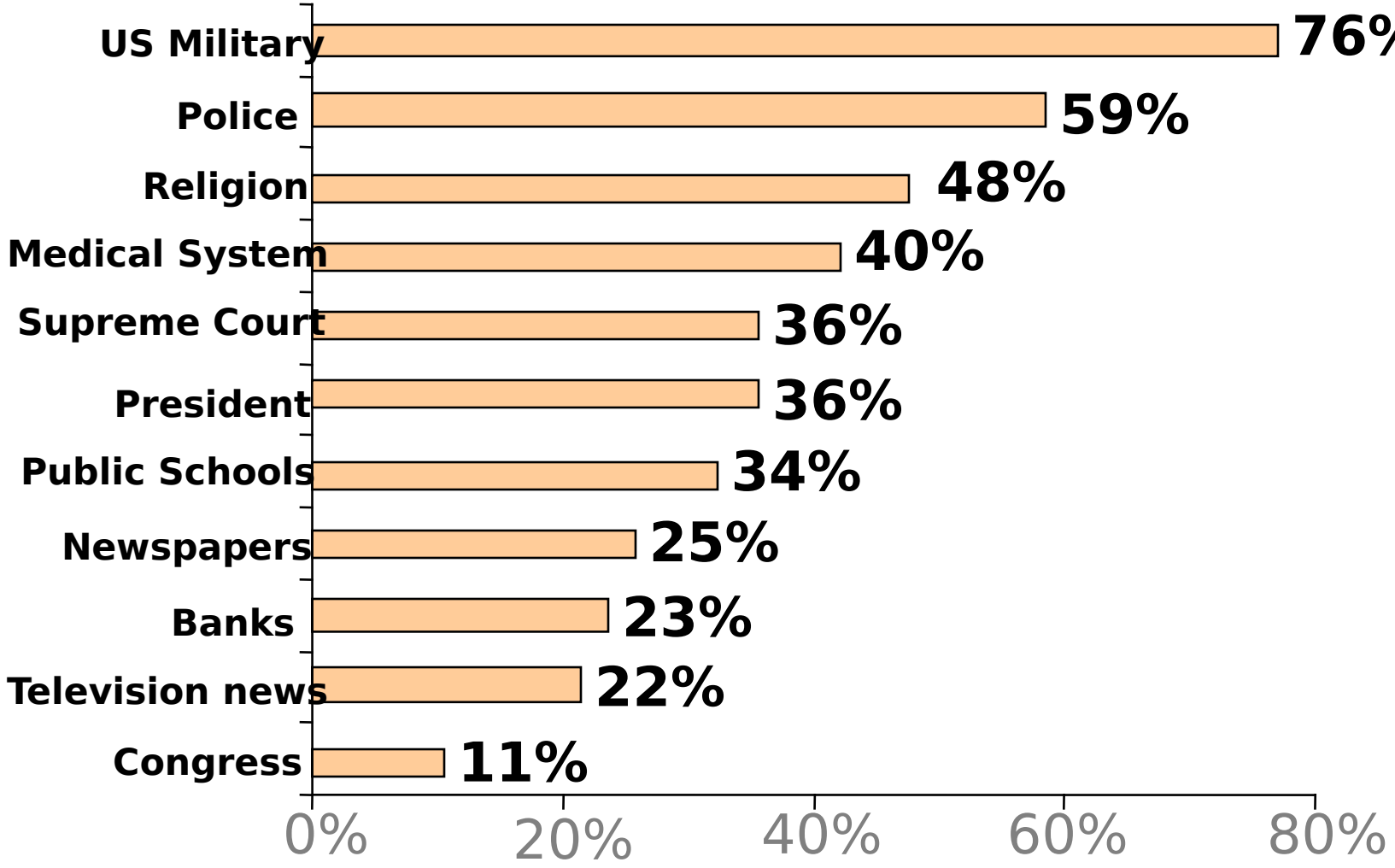
International Security Looking Toward the Future

- Russia relations with the west will grow more hostile – Prime Minister Putin has re-established authoritarian control of the state and its mechanisms.
- China will continue to remain economically strong -- the PRC will emerge as a major Pacific naval and air force military power.
- The crisis in Iraq will stabilize and international forces will largely withdraw. (Zero troops by December 2011).
- The next five years in Afghanistan will be complex. The political and economic situation may improve with massive new resources. The country is in misery.
- North Korea will come apart. The international community must facilitate a soft landing for this dangerous regional nuclear power. (Eight+ possible nuclear weapons and 200 missiles that can range Japan and South Korea). 250,000 North Koreans are starving in concentration camps. One million have died.
- The situation in Pakistan is unstable. The international presence in Afghanistan would be untenable without Pakistani support. (80% all NATO logistics by truck thru Pakistan).

International Security Looking Toward the Future

- India will become a global political, economic, and military power.
- Iran (Persian/Shia) will go nuclear and create instability in the Persian Gulf. The Sunni Arab nations will create a nuclear-military coalition to counter Iran.
- Japanese economic, political, and military power will attain global proportions.
- Saudi Arabia will continue to modernize, maintain stability, and greatly improve the capabilities of their Armed Forces and internal security.
- Mexico is in desperate need of serious US political and economic support to confront violent criminal drug cartels. Mexico will not be a failed state.
- The death of Castro -- meltdown of repression – 250,000 Cuban refugees within 36 months.
- Political confrontation with Chavez in Venezuela -- instability and oil.
- Islamic terrorists will strike repeatedly in the coming five years.

Military Tops Confidence Poll



Source: The Gallup Organization, Poll dated July, 2010